

Today is \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_. This is Ken Morgan's Northcoast Ag Report, our lead story is about \_\_\_\_\_ when we return

### **CFBF Meeting this week in Garden Grove**

Ag State lawmakers continue to voice strong concern, even worry, that the U.S. may pull out of the North American Free Trade Agreement, with dire consequences for home-state farmers and ranchers.

The latest Department of Agriculture export forecast shows the importance of Canada and Mexico as the U.S.'s second and third-largest markets, respectively, and Secretary Sonny Perdue hails both, and China, for the third and fourth-highest export totals ever, this year and next.

It's more reason that Midwest lawmakers like Missouri US Senator Claire McCaskill are worried by continued lack of progress in NAFTA renegotiations and heightened threats by President Trump to abandon the deal...tape

Cut #1 :15 OC:... "is Mexico."

Secretary Wilbur Ross has downplayed threats by Mexico to walk away from the NAFTA talks. McCaskill dismisses any claim Mexico must do its business here...tape

Cut #2 :16 OC:... "United States."

The American Farm Bureau points out that U.S. farm exports to Canada and Mexico have quadrupled in value since NAFTA took effect in the early Nineties.

AFBF and others argue the loss of NAFTA benefits would be devastating to US producers, already strapped by four-years of depressed farm prices.

### **Idaho Will Consider Ag Education Requirement for High School Students**

**A high school senior will propose a bill to Idaho lawmakers that would require high school students to complete at least two**

**agriculture education classes. The bill will be introduced in the 2018 Idaho legislative session by 17-year-old Anna Peterson, an FFA member from Nampa, Idaho, according to the Capitol Press. Peterson says the legislation would mean that every high school student in the state would “emerge from those classes with at least a basic understanding of the farming and ranching industry and where their food comes from.” Peterson says she wants the classes to cover animal and plant science as well as agriculture's importance to Idaho's economy and teach students about some of the many career opportunities involved with the industry.**